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ABSTRACT

This issue offers various articles about encouraging progress in the problem areas of juvenile violence and delinquency. The first feature article, "Kids and Guns: From Playgrounds to Battlegrounds" by Stuart Greenbaum, cites statistics showing significant increases in the past two decades in gun ownership and use by juveniles. Some promising steps to curb violence in general and gun violence in particular are described, and it is concluded that youth gun violence is preventable if the current public indignation generates local and national support. The second feature, "The National Juvenile Justice Action Plan: A Comprehensive Response to a Critical Challenge" by Sarah Ingersoll, summarizes a comprehensive agenda to reduce youth violence, spelling out eight objectives to reduce violence and delinquency. Also included in this issue are the following brief reports: (1) "What's Behind the Recent Drop in Juvenile Violent Crime?" (Statistical Highlights); (2) "Waiting for Justice: Moving Young Offenders through the Juvenile Court Process"; and (3) "Recreation Programs that Work for At-Risk Youth: The Challenge of Shaping the Future." (SLD)

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Office of Justice Programs
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

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Volume III • Number 2

ED 414 353

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Kids and Guns: From Playgrounds to Battlegrounds

Also

- The National Juvenile Justice Action Plan: A Comprehensive Response

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Journal of the
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From the Administrator

Heartened by the recent good news about the first reduction in juvenile crime and violence in a decade, those of us who work in juvenile justice are eager to build on this success and seize the opportunity presented by our increasing knowledge of what works to steer young people away from delinquency. In this issue of *Juvenile Justice*, we offer two very different, but complementary, articles about encouraging progress in one particularly troubling problem area and in the overall effort to combat juvenile violence and delinquency.

In "Kids and Guns: From Playgrounds to Battlegrounds," **Stuart Greenbaum** begins by citing ominous statistics showing significant increases in the past two decades in gun ownership and use by juveniles. Most of the article, however, describes more positive news—promising steps to curb violence in general and gun violence in particular. The author concludes that youth gun violence is preventable if the current public indignation generates support for national, State, and local efforts to get guns out of the hands of young people.

The second article, "The National Juvenile Justice Action Plan: A Comprehensive Response to a Critical Challenge," summarizes a comprehensive agenda to reduce youth violence. Under the leadership of Attorney General Janet Reno, the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention identified eight objectives for successfully reducing youth violence and delinquency. Author **Sarah Ingersoll** discusses what OJJDP and other Council members are doing to implement the National Juvenile Justice Action Plan—and OJJDP's Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders, on which it is based.

After years of increasing juvenile crime and violence, an anxious public is looking to policymakers and practitioners for answers to this urgent problem. There is, of course, no single solution, but this issue of *Juvenile Justice* offers a glimpse of actions we can take and programs we can support to rescue at-risk children from delinquent and violent futures and make our communities safer places to live.

Shay Bilchik
Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention

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JUVENILE JUSTICE

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The lethal mixture of kids and guns has reached a crisis in the United States. Attorney General Janet Reno has observed that, "No corner of America is safe from increasing levels of criminal violence, including violence committed by and against juveniles."

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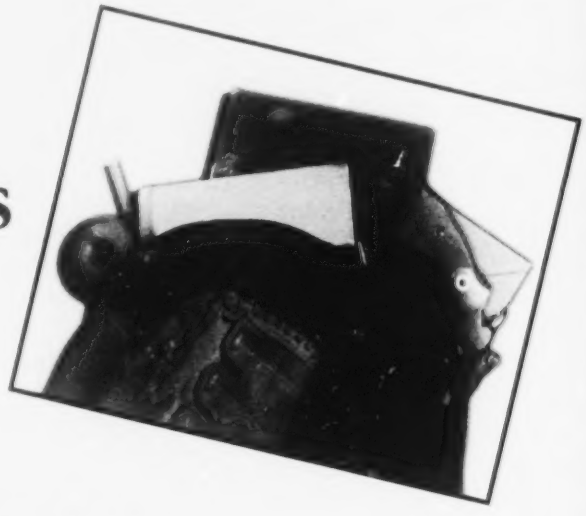
Kids and Guns: From Playgrounds to Battlegrounds



by Stuart Greenbaum

Late last year an 11-year-old boy was shot and killed. An 18-year-old allegedly killed the boy because he had shorted him on drug money (Thomas and Martin, 1996). The shooting should have rocked the Chicago neighborhood where it took place, except that this kind of thing happens all too often.

The lethal mix of children and guns has reached a crisis in the United States. Teenage boys are more likely to die of gunshot wounds than from all natural causes combined. The number of children dying from gunshot wounds and the number of children committing homicides continue to rise at alarming rates (McEnery, 1996).

Guns are now the weapon of choice for youth. As can be seen in the figure on the following page, gun homicides by juveniles have tripled since 1983, while homicides involving other weapons have declined. From 1983 through 1995, the proportion of homicides in which a juvenile used a gun increased from 55 percent to 80 percent (Snyder and Finnegan, 1997).

Disputes that would previously have ended in fist fights are now more likely to lead to shootings. A 1993 Louis Harris poll showed that 35 percent of children ages 6 to 12 fear their lives will be cut short by gun violence (Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., 1993). A 1990 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study found that one in five 9th through 12th graders reported carrying a weapon in the past month; one in five of those carried a firearm (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1991).

"No corner of America is safe from increasing levels of criminal violence, including violence committed by and against juveniles," Attorney General Janet Reno has observed. "Parents are afraid to let their children walk to school alone. Children hesitate to play in neighborhood playgrounds. The elderly lock themselves in their homes, and innocent Americans of all ages find their lives changed by the fear of crime" (Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1996).

Stuart Greenbaum is president of Greenbaum Public Relations, a Sacramento, California, firm that specializes in public interest concerns, including high-risk youth services. A 20-year veteran of public safety communication, Mr. Greenbaum is a cofounder and past communications director of the National School Safety Center at Pepperdine University.

The number of murdered juveniles increased 47 percent between 1980 and 1994, according to figures from *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1996 Update on Violence* (Snyder et al., 1996). The Summary, which cites data from the Federal

Buying guns illegally is relatively easy for juveniles.

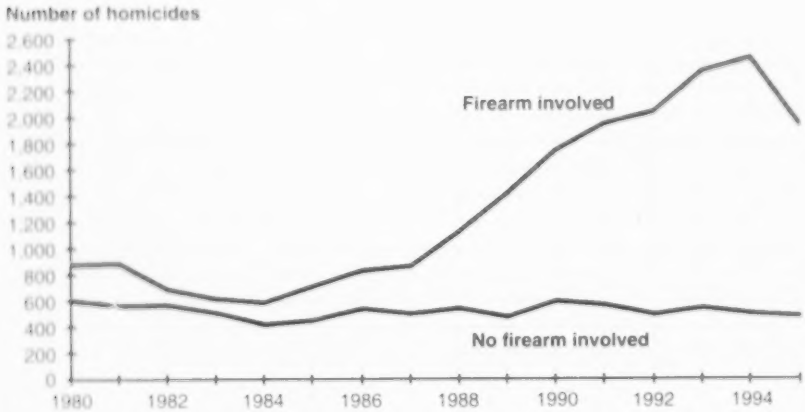
Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, notes that from 1980 through 1994 an estimated 326,170 persons were murdered in the United States. Of these, 9 percent (30,200) were youth under age 18. While there was a 1-percent increase from 1980 through 1994 in the total number of murders, the rate of juveniles murdered increased from five per day to seven per day. Fifty-three percent of the juveniles killed in 1994 were teenagers ages 15 to 17, while 30 percent were younger than age 6. In 1994, one in five murdered juveniles was killed by a juvenile offender.

Recently, however, there has been good news. Between 1994 and 1995, juvenile arrests for murder declined 14 percent, resulting in the number of juvenile murder arrests in 1995 being 9 percent below the 1991 figure. Overall arrests for violent juvenile crime decreased 3 percent between 1994 and 1995—the first decline in 9 years. These efforts must continue, however, as even these reduced rates are substantially higher than 1986 levels (Snyder, 1997).

Often, teenagers turn guns on themselves. In 1991, 1,889 teens ages 15 to 19 committed suicide—a rate of 11 per 100,000 (Allen-Hagen et al., 1994). Between

Juvenile Gun Homicides

Gun homicides by juveniles have tripled since 1983, while homicides involving other weapons have declined.



◆ From 1983 through 1995, the proportion of homicides in which a juvenile used a gun increased from 55 to 80 percent.

Source: Snyder, H.N., and T.A. Finnegan. 1997. *Easy Access to the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports: 1980–1995* (data presentation and analysis package). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

1980 and 1994, the suicide rate for 15- to 19-year-olds rose 29 percent, with an increase in firearms-related suicides accounting for 96 percent of the rise (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1996). The risk of suicide is five times greater for individuals living in households with guns than for those in households without guns (Kellerman et al., 1992).

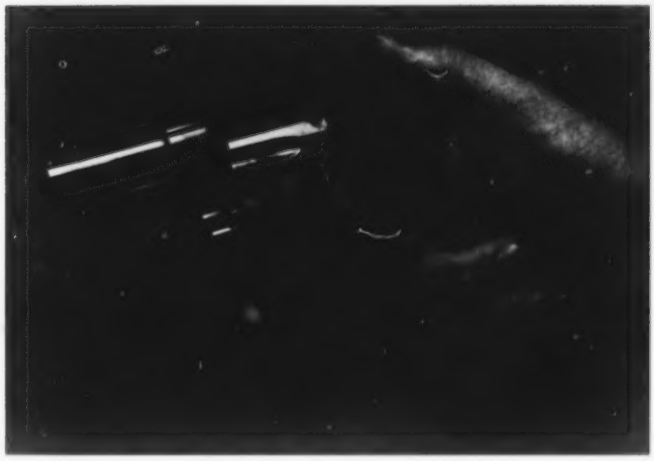
What is causing this epidemic of violence and how can it be stopped? The deterioration of the traditional family and the impact of drugs, gangs, poverty, and violence in the media are among the factors cited as contributing to the violent behavior of today's teens. Many of these children—victims and perpetrators—come from one- or no-parent families (McEnery, 1996).

Guns are readily available to juveniles. Although Federal law mandates that a person must be at least 18 years old to purchase a shotgun or rifle, and at least 21 years old to buy a handgun, law enforcement officials and youth themselves report that buying guns illegally is relatively easy for juveniles. Increasingly, juveniles believe they need guns for protection or carry them as status symbols. As more guns appear in the community, a local arms race ensues.

This article describes some promising steps that have been taken to curb the violence endangering our youth and our communities. It also provides information about a number of initiatives that have focused on gun violence in particular.

U.S. Attorneys Join the Fight

Local, State, and national programs to get guns out of the hands of young people are being put in place. In a report to the Attorney General and the President, U.S.



Attorneys outlined the following ways in which they are supporting State and local programs:

- Disrupting the markets that provide guns to youth.
- Taking guns out of the hands of young people through coordination with State and local law enforcement officials.
- Working with State and local prosecutors to enhance enforcement of their laws.
- Encouraging and providing financial support for State and local efforts to trace the sources of guns taken from juveniles.

Programs to get guns out of the hands of young people are being put into place.

- Launching targeted enforcement efforts in places where young people should feel safe, such as their homes, schools, and recreation centers.
- Participating in prevention efforts directed at juveniles in our communities through mentoring, adopt-a-school (in which schools are "adopted" by civic groups or businesses), and Neighborhood Watch programs.

◆ Promoting increased personal responsibility and safety through public outreach and information on the consequences of juvenile handgun possession (Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1996).

The experience of victimization by violence is far too common among children.

These approaches, also supported by other components of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), are critical elements of a comprehensive youth gun violence reduction strategy.

To advance the U.S. Attorneys' violence prevention efforts and to help States and local jurisdictions respond to the problem of juvenile firearms violence, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) published *Reducing Youth Gun Violence: An Overview of Programs and Initiatives* (Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1996). This report provides information on a wide array of strategies—from school-based prevention to gun market interception. In addition to program descriptions, the report includes a directory of youth gun violence prevention organizations and a bibliography of research, evaluation, and publications on youth and guns.

Promising Programs

Many State and local programs designed to take guns out of the hands of teenagers have proven successful. In the Kansas City (Missouri) Gun Experiment, the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Kansas City Police Department worked with local agencies to focus law enforcement efforts on high-crime neighborhoods. Under this initiative, developed with Weed and Seed funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, traffic law violators were routinely stopped, as were youth violating curfews and individuals involved in other infractions of the law. During these stops, police looked for violations that established legal authority to search a car or pedestrian for illegal guns. These special gun-interception teams were 10 times more cost-effective than regular police patrols.

The success of the Kansas City Gun Experiment is striking. An evaluation funded by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) found that crime in the 80-block target neighborhood, which had a homicide rate 20 times the national average, was cut in half in 6 months. Significantly, the program did not merely displace crime to other locations. Gun crimes did not increase in any of the seven surrounding patrol beats. The active involvement of community and religious leaders in the development of the program resulted in broad support for the program in the community, which had objected to past police crackdowns on guns (Sherman et al., 1995).

In Boston, where juveniles in high-risk neighborhoods frequently carry guns, NIJ has launched a problem-solving project to devise, implement, and assess strategic interventions to disrupt illicit firearms markets and deter youth violence. Its initial focus was analyzing the supply and demand for guns. Strategic interventions by police, probation, and parole officers have presented gang members—prevalent among both victims and offenders—with a clear choice: Stop the flow of guns and stop the violence or face rapid, focused, and comprehensive law enforcement and corrections attention. Although it is too soon to evaluate the long-term effectiveness of this strategy, its immediate impact is encouraging; youth violence in Boston appears to have been substantially reduced (Kennedy, 1997).

NIJ's promising initiative in Boston was highlighted at OJJDP's August 1996 national satellite teleconference, Reducing Youth Gun Violence, which was viewed by more than 8,000 participants at 271 downlink sites. The teleconference, which is available on videotape from OJJDP's Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse, also featured the Detroit-based Handgun Intervention Program, carried out by volunteers in Michigan's 36th District Court, and the Shock Mentor Program, a collaborative effort among Prince George's County, Maryland, Public Schools, the Washington, D.C., chapter of Concerned Black Men, Inc., and Prince George's Hospital Center.

Partnerships To Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence

Based on a review of research and programs conducted by OJJDP and summarized in *Reducing Youth Gun Violence: An Overview of Programs and Initiatives*, OJJDP has started a new initiative, Partnerships To Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence. This effort is intended to increase the effectiveness of existing youth gun violence reduction strategies by enhancing and coordinating prevention, intervention, and suppression strategies and by strengthening linkages among the community, law enforcement, and the juvenile justice system. Its comprehensive approach addresses three critical factors: juveniles' access to guns, the reasons young people carry guns, and the reasons they choose to use guns to resolve conflicts. Partnerships have been forged through recent OJJDP grants to the Center for Community Alternatives in Syracuse, New York; the City of East Baton Rouge, Louisiana; the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse of Northwest Louisiana; and Youth ALIVE!, which services Oakland and Los Angeles, California.

OJJDP is funding an evaluation of Partnerships To Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence to document and analyze the process of community mobilization, planning, and collaboration needed to develop a comprehensive approach to combating youth gun violence.

The fundamental challenge in reducing juvenile firearm possession is to convince youth that they can survive in their neighborhoods without being armed. Community-based programs such as those listed above are working to dispel the perception by many juveniles that the authorities can neither protect them nor maintain order in their neighborhoods. A number of communities have implemented programs that address the risk of victimization, improve school safety, and foster a secure community environment.

Victimization and the Cycle of Violence

The experience of victimization by violence is far too common among children in America. A survey of inner-city high school students revealed that 45 percent had been threatened with a gun or shot at, and one in three had been beaten up on their way to school (Sheley and Wright, 1993). According to a survey

released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, child abuse and neglect nearly doubled between 1986 and 1993 (Sedlak and Broadhurst, 1996). Investigations by child protective services agencies in 49 States determined that more than 1 million children were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and neglect in 1995 (National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect, 1997).

OJJDP and NIJ have supported several studies focusing on this cycle of violence. The research indicates a relationship between experiences of childhood violence and subsequent delinquent behavior. OJJDP's Rochester (New York) Youth Development Study found that children who had been victims of violence were 24 percent more likely to report engaging in violent behavior as adolescents than those who had not been maltreated in childhood (Thornberry, 1994). An NIJ longitudinal study of childhood victimization found that child abuse increases the likelihood of future delinquency and adult criminality by nearly 40 percent (Widom, 1992).

Child abuse and neglect nearly doubled between 1986 and 1993.

With funding support from OJJDP, the New Haven (Connecticut) Department of Police Services and the Yale Child Study Center established the Child Development–Community Policing (CD–CP) program to address the adverse impact of continued exposure to violence on children and their families and to interrupt the cycle of violence affecting so many of our children. Reflecting New Haven's commendable commitment to community policing, the program brings law enforcement and mental health professionals together to help children who are victims, witnesses, and (in some instances) perpetrators of violent acts. The CD–CP program serves as a model for police-mental health partnerships across the Nation and is being replicated under the CD–CP grant in Buffalo, New York; Charlotte, North Carolina; Nashville, Tennessee; and Portland, Oregon (Marans and Berkman, 1997). In fiscal year 1997, OJJDP is enhancing the CD–CP program to provide training to school personnel, probation and parole officers, and prosecutors.

Public Information Campaigns

Researchers have found that long-term public education campaigns on violence prevention, family education, alcohol and drug prevention, and gun safety curriculums in schools are effective in helping to reduce delinquency (American Academy of Pediatrics, 1992; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1991; Christoffel, 1991; DeJong, 1994). This may be especially true for education campaigns to prevent gun violence, because public awareness of positive activities can reduce fear, which is a powerful factor in juveniles choosing to carry guns. Involving teenagers in the development and operation of these programs is a critical ingredient to a program's success (Treanor and Bijlefeld, 1989). The public and private sectors, including the media, also can play significant roles in program design and implementation.

The goal of public information and education efforts should be threefold: to change public perceptions about youth violence and guns, to educate the community about the problem, and to convince youth and adults that their involvement is essential to the success of any program to curb possession and use of guns by youth. Public information campaigns can

empower citizens to reach informed judgments about effective ways of preventing firearms violence by and against juveniles.

Public information campaigns to reduce gun violence should:

- Provide accurate information to key policymakers about the causes, nature, and extent of juvenile delinquency and victimization, particularly gun-related violence.
- Communicate that juvenile gun violence and victimization are preventable.
- Publicize strategies and results of successful programs and encourage their replication.
- Motivate individuals, government agencies, and community service organizations to work collaboratively to address the problem as a key to ensuring public safety.

A number of public information campaigns have been launched or are being developed. In California, the statewide Campaign To Prevent Handgun Violence Against Kids has produced 30-second television public service announcements (PSA's) in English and Spanish; communicated critical information on youth gun violence to elected officials, media leaders, and public agencies; and received thousands of calls through its hotline and information service (Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1996).

To assist communities in their public education efforts, the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence collaborated with Disney Educational Productions (1994) to produce *Under the Gun: A Story About Violence Prevention*. The video, intended for educational and law enforcement agencies, refutes the notion that guns are glamorous and that carrying guns makes communities safer.

OJJDP and the Bureau of Justice Assistance are funding a public-private partnership to create and market PSA's with a three-part message designed to persuade young people to turn away from violence, educate parents and other community residents about solutions to youth violence, and show teens, parents, and youth-serving professionals how they can become part of the solution.

Public information campaigns can empower citizens to reach informed judgments.

Conclusion

As disturbing as youth gun violence is, it need not be inevitable. It is preventable—as many programs throughout the United States are beginning to demonstrate. With the public alarmed about the problem, public servants and practitioners might bear in mind the Greek philosopher Solon's words, "There can be no justice until those of us who are unaffected by crime become as indignant as those who are."

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The National Juvenile Justice Action Plan: A Comprehensive Response to a Critical Challenge

by Sarah Ingersoll

"More and more of our Nation's children are killing and dying. The only way we can break the cycle of violence is through a truly national effort implemented one community at a time. Everyone has a role—businesses, schools, universities, and especially parents. Every community and every citizen can find practical steps in the Action Plan *to do something now about youth violence."*

Attorney General Janet Reno

On the heels of the crack epidemic, the Nation has witnessed the drive-by murder of a 3-year-old girl playing in the wrong place at the wrong time, a 12-year-old boy caught in a deadly feud over drug turf, and a homeless man set on fire in the subway by boys who should have been in school. Lurid headlines have captured the public's attention as youth violence takes center stage in the domestic debate.

Responses to these events have been as swift as they have been varied, but often they are reactions to a crisis rather than solutions based on analysis.

A Comprehensive Plan

In 1994, Attorney General Janet Reno convened the first meeting of the restructured Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, which comprises nine juvenile justice practitioners and representatives from the U.S. Departments of Justice (DOJ), Health and Human Services (HHS), Housing and Urban Development, Labor, Treasury, and Education (ED); the Office of National Drug Control Policy; and the Corporation for National Service. The Attorney General charged the

Sarah Ingersoll is a Special Assistant to the Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Council to create an agenda to reduce youth violence. *Combating Violence and Delinquency: The National Juvenile Justice Action Plan* (Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1996) is the Council's call to action.

The Action Plan encourages helping youth throughout their development.

Drawing on decades of research, previously summarized in the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) *Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders* (Wilson and Howell, 1993), the *Action Plan* encourages helping youth throughout their development while responding to juvenile crime in a way that ensures public safety. The Coordinating Council calls on citizens to work together to advance the *Action Plan*'s eight key objectives to combat youth violence:

- Provide immediate intervention and appropriate sanctions and treatment for delinquent juveniles.
- Prosecute certain serious, violent, and chronic juvenile offenders in criminal court.
- Reduce youth involvement with guns, drugs, and gangs.
- Provide opportunities for children and youth.
- Break the cycle of violence by addressing youth victimization, abuse, and neglect.
- Strengthen and mobilize communities.
- Support the development of innovative approaches to research and evaluation.
- Implement an aggressive public outreach campaign on effective strategies to combat juvenile violence.

OJJDP is working to implement the *Action Plan* through a coordinated initiative of demonstration grants, training and technical assistance, research and evaluation programs, and information dissemination activities. The following examples demonstrate the scope of these initiatives.

Strengthening the Juvenile Justice System

Attaining the first objective of the *Action Plan* requires strengthening the Nation's juvenile justice system. Through Formula Grants, Title V Community Prevention Grants, and State Challenge Grants, OJJDP provides States with funds to plan and implement comprehensive State and local programs to prevent and control delinquency and enhance the effective operation of the juvenile justice system.

In five program sites, OJJDP is demonstrating the graduated sanctions approach that is part of the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders. OJJDP is also supporting development of a stronger juvenile justice system through the SafeFutures Program; developing, testing, and expanding model juvenile community assessment centers; and promoting statewide adoption of the Comprehensive Strategy through intensive technical assistance and training in Florida, Iowa, Maryland, Rhode Island, and Texas.

In addition, OJJDP is training juvenile justice system personnel to implement the balanced and restorative justice model. Restorative justice holds the offender responsible for making restitution to the victim and restoring the state of well-being that existed in the community before the offense. The balanced approach also suggests that the juvenile justice system improve the ability of offenders to pursue legitimate endeavors after their release. Training and technical assistance are also being provided to

probation officers and juvenile justice practitioners to enable them to establish restitution and community service programs. States interested in juvenile code reforms that reflect the balanced and restorative justice model are also receiving training and technical assistance. By the end of 1995, at least 24 States had adopted, or were examining, codes or procedures incorporating the concepts of balanced and restorative justice.

Prosecuting Serious, Violent, and Chronic Offenders

The second objective of the *Action Plan* addresses how to deal with juvenile offenders whose offenses, or offense history and failure to respond to treatment, merit criminal prosecution. In recent years, no other juvenile justice policy has received more legislative attention or yielded such a multitude of different approaches for dealing with serious, violent, and chronic juvenile offenders.

OJJDP has published a research summary of legislative changes taking place across the country between 1992 and 1995. *State Responses to Serious and Violent Juvenile Crime* (Torbet et al., 1996) covers such topics as juvenile court jurisdictional authority, including waiver and transfer mechanisms; sentencing options, including blended sentencing practices; corrections options for juveniles; confidentiality and information sharing; victim rights in the juvenile justice system; and comprehensive State system reforms to respond to serious, violent, and chronic delinquency. In addition, OJJDP is funding the National Conference of State Legislatures to help improve State juvenile justice systems by providing State legislators and staff with the latest research, effective State policies, and model responses to youth violence through both publications and intensive training.

With each new legislative debate regarding new provisions, State legislators and criminal justice officials are faced with a lack of reliable current information on the effectiveness of newly adopted laws and policies. To address this information gap, OJJDP is currently funding three studies in Arizona, Florida, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Utah to determine the outcome and impact of waiver and transfer provisions on juvenile offenders under varying legal and administrative configurations. The research will control for the presenting offense, offense history, and offender's age and will include the kind of case attribute information that is often missing from studies in this subject area.

The studies are being done collaboratively. Universities and research organizations are teaming up with key State and local criminal justice agencies to answer critical questions about the process, impact, and comparative effectiveness of new strategies. Two of the current studies involve replication and expansion of prior research and will provide information on differences in processing and outcome in the strategies of the 1980's compared with those of the 1990's; another looks at long-term trends.

OJJDP is funding studies to determine the impact of waiver and transfer provisions on juvenile offenders.

All of the studies have gone beyond the limited data routinely available in automated record systems to study in greater detail critical aspects related to offenses, such as the offender's role in the commission of the crime, harm to the victim, and involvement of drugs or guns in the offense. It is hoped that more indepth

characterization of cases will reveal patterns in the determinations made by prosecutors and judges to transfer a juvenile to criminal court for prosecution.

One of the goals of the research program is to explore the possibility of developing a system to collect routine information from a broader range of sources on the processing, outcomes, and impacts of criminal prosecution nationally. Researchers from all sites will collaborate to produce a cross-jurisdictional comparison of critical dimensions of the process.

The Youth Substance Use Prevention Grant Program will support 10 community-based, youth-led prevention initiatives.

In addition to these studies, OJJDP and the Bureau of Justice Statistics will be funding State-initiated studies of juvenile transfers through the State Justice Statistics Program for Statistical Analysis Centers in fiscal year 1997.

Targeting Guns, Drugs, and Gangs

Objective three of the *Action Plan* also identifies programmatic and strategic prevention, intervention, and suppression activities that target three critical areas affecting juvenile violence—guns, drugs, and gangs.

Guns. From 1985 to 1992, the number of homicides committed by juveniles with firearms more than doubled. Under Partnerships To Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence, OJJDP is funding four initiatives—one in California, two in Louisiana, and one in New York—that are linking community mobilization efforts with law enforcement to address this problem. An evaluation of the Partnerships effort is also being sponsored by OJJDP. In addition, OJJDP has held a national satellite teleconference on programs designed to reduce youth gun violence. The teleconference, which is available on videotape from OJJDP's Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse, was viewed by approximately 8,130 people at 271 downlink sites.

Drugs. In response to an increase in drug use by young people, OJJDP is administering the $1 million Youth Substance Use Prevention Grant Program of the President's Crime Prevention Council, which will support 10 community-based, youth-led prevention initiatives. OJJDP is also funding an evaluation of the program that will build local program grantees' capacity for designing, implementing, and interpreting evaluations; determine whether youth-led delinquency and substance use prevention activities have a greater impact on youth than adult-led prevention activities; and define the elements critical to implementing a successful youth-led prevention activity. OJJDP is also continuing to fund the Community Anti-Drug Abuse Technical Assistance Voucher project and the Congress of National Black Churches' National Anti-Drug/Violence Campaign—programs that help grassroots organizations and churches address juvenile drug abuse.

The Race Against Drugs Program is a unique drug awareness, education, and prevention campaign implemented with the help and assistance of 23 motor sports organizations, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Navy, and others. OJJDP is also working with the American Probation and Parole Association to train and help juvenile justice practitioners identify and treat drug-involved youth. OJJDP held a national satellite teleconference on preventing drug abuse among youth that was viewed by approximately 10,000 people at 300 downlink sites. (To obtain a videotape of this teleconference, see order form, page 27.)

Gangs. OJJDP is implementing and testing a research-driven, community-based approach to suppressing, intervening in, and preventing gang violence through its Comprehensive Response to America's Youth Gang Problem Initiative. Five jurisdictions experiencing an emerging or chronic gang problem (Mesa and Tucson, Arizona; Riverside, California; Bloomington, Illinois; and San Antonio, Texas) have been funded under this initiative to implement the comprehensive model for 3 years. OJJDP has established the National Youth Gang Center to promote effective and innovative strategies, collect and analyze statistical data on gangs, analyze gang legislation, and review gang literature. OJJDP also funded Boys & Girls Clubs of America gang-prevention programs that have reached 6,000 youth at risk for gang involvement. OJJDP has also established the interagency, public/private Gang Consortium as part of the Comprehensive Response initiative. The Consortium seeks to facilitate and expand ongoing coordination activities and enhance youth gang prevention, intervention, and suppression policies and activities, including information exchange and technical assistance services provided by the many Federal

agencies with program emphasis on youth gangs and related problems. OJJDP's national satellite teleconference on strategies to prevent, intervene in, and suppress juvenile gang violence was viewed by approximately 17,000 people at 635 downlink sites. (To obtain a videotape of this teleconference, see order form, page 27.)

Enhancing Opportunities for Youth

Objective four of the *Action Plan* calls for the Nation to provide positive opportunities for youth. Research demonstrates that mentoring, afterschool activities, conflict resolution programs, remedial education, and vocational training can prevent young people from becoming delinquents. OJJDP is actively disseminating a variety of research-based documents. *Delinquency Prevention Works* (Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1995a) and the *Guide for Implementing the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile*

OJJDP is testing a research-driven, community-based response to youth gangs.

Offenders (Howell, 1995) both offer many examples of effective prevention and intervention programs. Other helpful publications are the OJJDP Bulletins in the Youth Development Series, which OJJDP created this year to present findings from the Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency, a longitudinal research program studying

Conflict resolution education reduces juvenile violence and improves school attendance.

4,000 young people in Denver, Colorado; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Rochester, New York. Series titles developed thus far are *Epidemiology of Serious Violence* (Kelley et al., 1997), *Gang Members and Delinquent Behavior* (Thornberry and Burch, 1997), and *In the Wake of Childhood Maltreatment* (Kelley et al., 1997). In addition, OJJDP has published a number of individual Bulletins on specific promising programs, including *Allegheny County, PA: Mobilizing To Reduce Juvenile Crime* (Hsia, 1997), *Treating Serious Anti-Social Behavior in Youth: The MST Approach* (Henggeler, 1997), and *Mentoring—A Proven Delinquency Prevention Strategy* (Grossman and Garry, 1997).

DOJ is also funding expanded opportunities for youth and training for youth service professionals. Boys & Girls Clubs have provided afterschool activities that have increased school attendance, improved academic performance, and reduced the juvenile crime rate in high-risk neighborhoods. In addition to funding the Law-Related Education Program and the Teens, Crime, and the Community Initiative, which involves young people in community safety efforts, OJJDP has provided professional development training for youth workers and programmatic support to 93 mentoring programs funded under the Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP). A recent national evaluation of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of America mentoring program found that the young people involved in this program were 46 percent less likely to start using drugs, 33 percent less likely to exhibit aggressive behavior, and 27 percent less likely to start using alcohol than their peers. Mentoring is a component of OJJDP's SafeFutures initiative, which assists communities in combating delinquency by developing a full range of coordinated services. In addition to JUMP and SafeFutures, OJJDP supports more than 90 mentoring efforts in individual States through its Formula Grants Program (Grossman and Garry, 1997). OJJDP recently held a national satellite teleconference on mentoring. (To obtain a videotape of this teleconference, see order form, page 27.)

Addressing conflict resolution programming in schools, the community, and juvenile justice settings, a 1995 OJJDP satellite teleconference provided more than 10,000 participants with information on conflict resolution programs that have reduced the number of violent

juvenile acts, decreased the number of chronic school absences, reduced the number of disciplinary referrals and suspensions, and expanded classroom instruction. These conflict resolution programs and approaches are described in *Conflict Resolution Education: A Guide to Implementing Programs in Schools, Youth-Serving Organizations, and Community and Juvenile Justice Settings* (Crawford and Bodine, 1996), published by OJJDP and ED's Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program. OJJDP has funded a training and technical assistance program that supports the implementation of conflict resolution efforts at the local level.

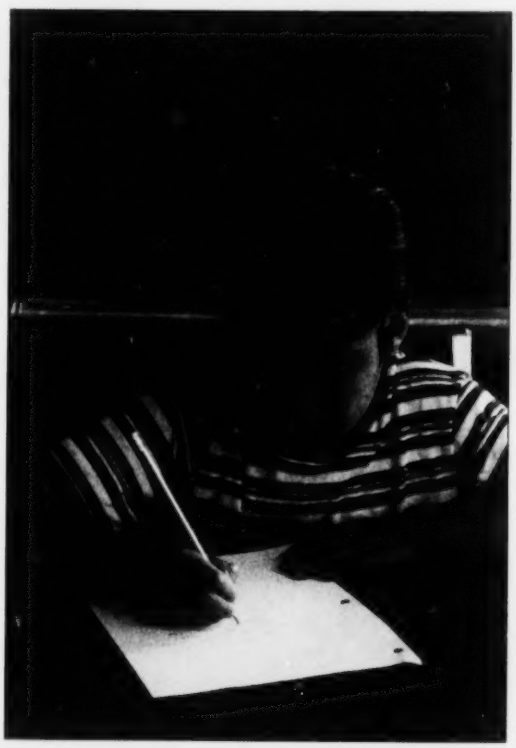
Supported by OJJDP in collaboration with the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, Commerce, and Defense, the Communities In Schools dropout-prevention program has reached more than 97,000 youth and their families, increased students' likelihood of attending and staying in school, and improved their academic performance. OJJDP and ED have also funded the National School Safety Center to focus attention on the problems of youth who do not attend school regularly because they are truants or dropouts, are afraid to attend school, have been suspended or expelled, or are in need of help to be reintegrated into mainstream schools after spending time in juvenile detention and correctional settings. Four forums on Youth Out of the Education Mainstream were held in summer 1996 to highlight effective and promising programs. Intensive training and technical assistance are being delivered to 10 sites to implement comprehensive approaches to this problem.

Breaking the Cycle of Violence

In 1995, child protective service agencies investigated an estimated 2 million reports alleging the mistreatment of almost 3 million children (National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect, 1997). Studies show that childhood abuse and neglect increase a child's odds of future delinquency and adult criminality. Data from the Rochester Youth Development Study (RYDS) show that self-reports of youth violence increased with exposure to more types of family violence. RYDS is one of three coordinated, longitudinal research projects of OJJDP's Causes and Correlates Program, the largest shared-measurement approach ever achieved in delinquency research.

Studies show that childhood abuse and neglect increase a child's odds of future delinquency.

The fifth objective of the *Action Plan*, therefore, challenges us to eliminate the disturbing cycle of domestic violence,



child abuse and neglect, and youth violence. OJJDP is collaborating with other bureaus in the Office of Justice Programs to support Safe Kids/Safe Streets: Community Approaches to Reducing Abuse and Neglect and Preventing Delinquency. This initiative is designed to help youth at risk for abuse and neglect and their families, to encourage communities to strengthen the response of their criminal and juvenile justice systems to child abuse and neglect, and to enhance system coordination with child and family service agencies. Five communities (Huntsville, Alabama; the Sault Sainte Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians in Michigan; Kansas City, Missouri; Toledo, Ohio; and Chittenden County, Vermont) have been selected for funding under the Safe Kids/Safe Streets Program. The funding agencies are also sponsoring an evaluation of the program.

The CD–CP program serves as a national model for police-mental health partnerships.

In addition, OJJDP is working with the Executive Office for Weed and Seed and HHS to implement the David Olds Nurse Home Visitation Program in six sites. Six hundred low-income, first-time mothers (some of whom are drug addicts) and their babies will be served through this prenatal and early childhood home-visitation program. Through home visits in the first 2 years of a child's life, program nurses work intensively with new mothers to improve key aspects of health and early child development and strengthen the mother's parenting and vocational skills.

In October 1995, OJJDP entered into a 3-year cooperative agreement for a project called Training and Technical Assistance for Family Strengthening, which is being implemented by the University of Utah, Department of Health Education, in Salt Lake City. This project allows the university to continue work it has been conducting since 1990 to identify the most effective family programs for the prevention of delinquency. This project is designed to help close the gap between the state of research and the state of practice in family-focused prevention. The university will synthesize and disseminate information about model family strengthening programs through training and technical assistance and the development of written materials.

OJJDP is also funding the Yale/New Haven Child Development–Community Policing (CD–CP) Program to engage community police and mental health professionals in addressing the psychological burdens of increasing levels of community violence on children, families, and communities. The CD–CP Program, a collaborative effort of the New Haven (Connecticut) Department of Police Services and the Child Study Center at the Yale University School of Medicine, serves as a national model for police-mental health partnerships (Marans and Berkman, 1997).

In addition, OJJDP is sponsoring four regional children's advocacy centers to coordinate the response of judicial and social service systems to child abuse. The regional centers act as clearinghouses, distributing resource materials and other tools, providing training and technical assistance, and facilitating information sharing. OJJDP supports the National Network of Children's Advocacy Centers, which provides funding, training, and technical support to local children's advocacy centers. Thanks to such efforts, nearly 300 communities now have children's advocacy centers. Moreover, through OJJDP's support of the National Court Appointed Special Advocates

Association, some 700 communities have established court appointed special advocate (CASA) programs providing volunteers to serve as advocates in court proceedings for victims of child abuse (Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1997).

Putting the *Plan* Into Action

The remaining objectives of the *Action Plan* focus on mobilizing communities, engaging a variety of disciplines to ensure that research serves as the foundation of program activities, and conducting an outreach campaign on effective strategies to combat juvenile violence.

OJJDP is helping communities mobilize to prevent juvenile delinquency and transferring the research base on the causes and correlates of delinquency through the Title V Community Prevention Grants. These grants have been distributed to 49 States, 5 territories, and the District of Columbia. Nearly 4,000 participants have been trained in risk- and protective-factor-focused delinquency prevention, and 3-year Community Prevention Grants have been awarded to approximately 400 communities. OJJDP's *Title V Delinquency Prevention Program Community Self-Evaluation Workbook* (Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1995b) is helping communities evaluate their progress and results under this program.

In partnership with the Bureau of Justice Assistance, OJJDP will be providing additional information on strategies that work through a public information campaign. Using the Comprehensive Strategy and *Action Plan* as guides, community leaders and other concerned citizens will have access to information on effective delinquency prevention; gang, gun, and drug violence reduction; and juvenile justice reform strategies and programs.

Through its Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse, OJJDP annually distributes more than 2 million copies of Reports, Summaries, Bulletins, Fact Sheets, and other publications providing research findings and program information. OJJDP publications are available through a toll-free telephone line, and by mail, fax, and the Internet. OJJDP also continues to present national satellite teleconferences on key juvenile justice issues and is currently completing production of an interactive CD-ROM on effective prevention and intervention programs. Information about these services and activities can be obtained by calling the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse, toll free, at 800–638–8736.

Deterring delinquency requires a substantial investment of financial and human resources.

Conclusion

Deterring delinquency and reducing youth violence require a substantial, sustained investment of financial and human resources by both the public and private sectors. If this Nation truly intends to ensure public safety and reduce youth violence and victimization, it must make a greater commitment to a juvenile justice system that holds juvenile offenders immediately accountable (before they become hardened criminals) and responds appropriately to the issues that bring young people to the courtroom in the first place. All young people should be guaranteed the opportunity to be healthy, safe, and able to learn in school and to engage in positive, productive activities. This requires the targeted and coordinated use of new and existing resources. The research-based goals and

objectives of the *Action Plan* and the model established by OJJDP's Comprehensive Strategy can be successfully implemented, but only if a long-term commitment is made to work together to achieve them.

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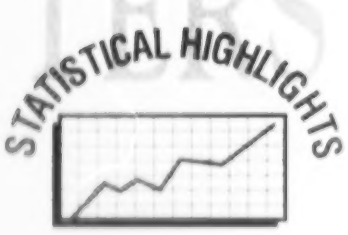
JUSTICE MATTERS

What's Behind the Recent Drop in Juvenile Violent Crime?



For the first time in nearly 10 years, arrests of juveniles for violent crime declined in 1995.

The FBI's *Crime in the United States 1995* series shows that juvenile arrests for violent crime increased annually, and substantially, in the United States between 1988 and 1994. These increases led many to predict a future wave of juvenile violence as the youth population increases into the next century. But in 1995, with a growing juvenile population, violent juvenile crime arrests—contrary to predictions—declined. In relative terms, the decline was small (only 3 percent), but the nature of the decline gives hope for the future.

The decline in violent crime arrests in 1995 was driven by decreases in arrests of younger juveniles. Overall, violent crime arrests of juveniles ages 15 to 17 fell by 2% between 1994 and 1995, while arrests of younger juveniles dropped 5%. If delinquency at a younger age is correlated with similar behavior as youth grow older, the lower number of violent crime arrests of younger juveniles in 1995 suggests that their levels of violence at ages 15 to 17 are likely to be below those of today's 15- to 17-year-olds. If so, more declines in juvenile violence should be expected in upcoming years.

The decline in juvenile murders in 1995 was mostly in gun-related murders by black males.

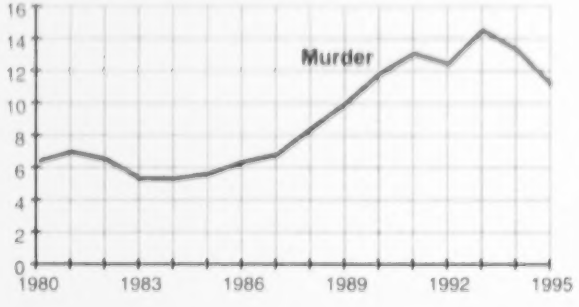
While juvenile arrests for all violent crime offenses declined, the decline was largest in juvenile arrests for murder, which dropped 14% between 1994 and 1995. Murder arrests had also declined (3%) between 1993 and 1994. If murder arrests can be used as a barometer of future violence, this large decline over the past 2 years also signals that the country may have stemmed the growth of juvenile violence.

The juvenile arrest rate for murder declined between 1993 and 1995.

Murder

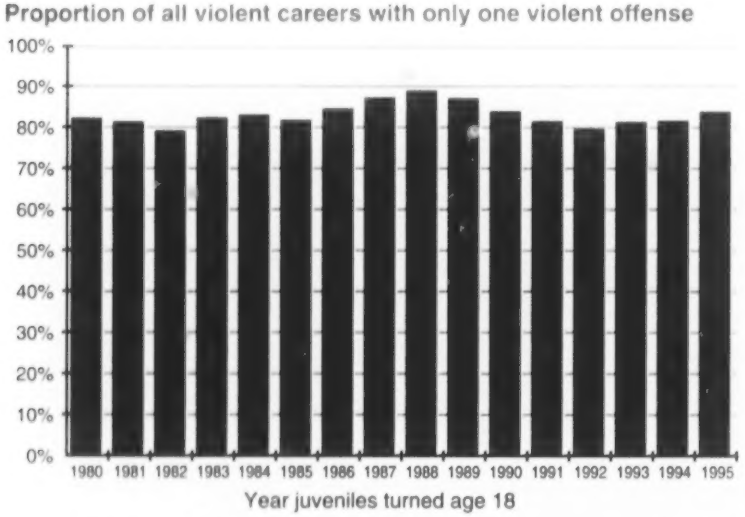
- The rate at which juveniles were arrested for murder increased by nearly 170% between the low year of 1984 and the peak year of 1993.
- The juvenile murder arrest rate declined in both 1994 and 1995, with the 1995 rate more than 20% below the peak 1993 rate and at its lowest level in the 1990's.
- Between 1994 and 1995, while cities experienced a 17% decline in juvenile murder arrests, murder arrests of juveniles in suburban counties increased 6%.

Arrests per 100,000 juveniles ages 10 to 17



Source: Snyder, H.N. 1997. *Juvenile Arrests 1995*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Five out of six youth referred to juvenile court for a violent offense had no subsequent violent offense referrals—a pattern that changed little from 1980 through 1995.



Note: This study of 151,000 court-involved youth who turned 18 years of age between 1980 and 1995 found that 8% had at least one violent offense referral in their court careers.

Source: Snyder, H.N. 1997. *The Prevalence of Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders in a Delinquent Population.* Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice.

Analyses of the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Report data for 1994 and 1995 show that juveniles were involved in 2,300 (or 9.9% of all) murders in 1994 and 1,900 (or 8.9%) in 1995—a drop of 400 murders over a 1-year period. An analysis of this reduction in murders involving juveniles indicates that the 400-murder decrease can be broken down in the following overlapping categories: 95% of the decline was in gun-related homicides, 61% in homicides of acquaintances, 96% in homicides committed by males, and 80% in murders committed by black juveniles. Therefore, the large reduction in murders by juveniles between 1994 and 1995 was in gun-related homicides by black males.

For More Information

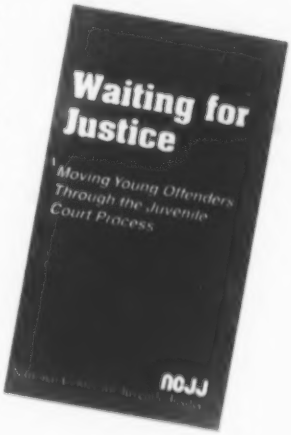
Interested readers may obtain a copy of *Crime in the United States 1995* by contacting the U.S. Government Printing Office or its local bookstore.

With funds from OJJDP, the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) has prepared a user-friendly software package that presents annual juvenile and adult arrest statistics for every county and State in the United States for the past 5 years. *Easy Access to FBI Arrest Statistics: 1991–1995* (and two other data sets in the series) can be downloaded from the Highlights section of OJJDP's home page: *http://www.ncjrs.org/ojjhome.htm*. Copies also can be obtained by calling NCJJ at 412–227–6950 or by writing to the National Center for Juvenile Justice, 710 Fifth Avenue, Third Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219–3000.

This section was written by Howard N. Snyder, Project Director of the Juvenile Justice Statistics and Systems Development Program of NCJJ.

Waiting for Justice: Moving Young Offenders Through the Juvenile Court Process

Jeffrey A. Butts and Gregory J. Halemba. Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1996.



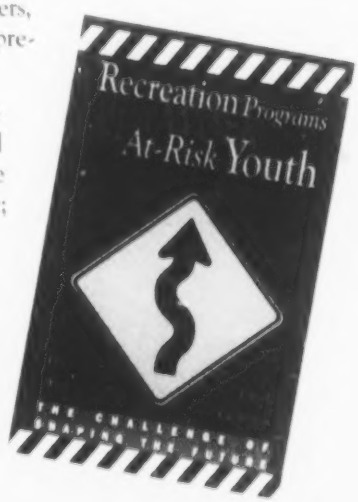
It is said that justice delayed is justice denied. With the increase in delinquency caseloads across America, concern has grown about whether delays in processing delinquency cases are reducing the effectiveness of the juvenile courts. Yet, as Hunter Hurst, director of the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ), observes, "Despite its obvious importance, the speed of the juvenile justice process has been virtually ignored by researchers."

With the publication of *Waiting for Justice: Moving Young Offenders Through the Juvenile Court Process*, this is no longer the case. This unique volume reports on OJJDP's Delays in Juvenile Justice Sanctions Project, the first major study of processing delays in the history of U.S. juvenile courts.

While delays in adult criminal courts have commanded more public attention, "processing delays in the juvenile justice system may be uniquely harmful," as the authors of *Waiting for Justice* note, since "adolescents are known to be socially, emotionally, and even cognitively different from adults." The benchmark findings of OJJDP's study are amply covered in this NCJJ publication.

Recreation Programs that Work for At-Risk Youth: The Challenge of Shaping the Future

Peter A. Witt and John L. Crompton, eds. State College, PA: Venture Publishing, Inc., 1996.



The problems posed by school dropouts, teen substance abusers, youth gang members, and juvenile offenders continue to challenge our Nation. Programs that focus on prevention and intervention are integral to combating delinquency.

The 38 case studies featured in *Recreation Programs that Work for At-Risk Youth* are derived from a 1995 colloquium convened by the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration; the National Recreation and Park Association; the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences at Texas A&M University; and the Fort Worth Parks and Community Services Department.

Particularly helpful is the editors' citation of common themes reflected by the diverse programs and locales. Major themes emerging from the case studies include the stimuli underlying program initiation, program objectives, the need for collaborative efforts, and the degree of involvement of participants in program planning. Parks and recreation departments willing to go beyond what the editors describe as "fun and games" to return to their roots by serving at-risk youth and their communities would be well served by the information provided in this compendium.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

OJJDP Bulletins Highlight Education and Youth Development Initiatives

OJJDP's Bulletin series addresses a wide variety of topics concerning the well-being of youth in the United States. Each Bulletin provides an overview of a particular area of interest and describes ways that the government and private sectors are addressing the issue. The Bulletins often synthesize a large amount of information in a few pages, highlighting the most salient facts for a broad audience. Recent additions to the Bulletin series include titles that focus on education and youth development initiatives.

Education

Youth who are not in school are more vulnerable to delinquency, drugs, and gangs. A 1992 study by the National Center for Education Statistics found that 3.4 million young people between the ages of 16 and 24 dropped out of school before earning a high school diploma. Local, regional, and national organizations, alone or with Federal Government assistance, are making strides in keeping youth in school and supporting them through graduation and beyond.

Two new OJJDP Bulletins, *Keeping Young People in School: Community Programs That Work* and *Reaching Out to Youth Out of the Education Mainstream*, highlight such efforts to keep young people in school or to help those who have left to complete their education.

Keeping Young People in School: Community Programs That Work examines the reasons youth drop out of school and the long-term effects on them and society, then describes a number of programs that have responded to the challenge of working with these youth. The sample of programs described in *Keeping Young People in School: Community Programs That Work* reflects the diversity of approaches designed to solve this problem.

One such program, Communities In Schools (CIS), which delivers comprehensive services directly to troubled youth, is described in detail, and findings from an evaluation of the program's effectiveness are presented. CIS brings businesses and public and private agencies in communities together with welfare and health professionals, employment counselors, social workers, recreation leaders, the clergy, and members of community groups and puts them where they are needed—in the schools. A support system of caring adults is brought together in one place to ensure that students have access to resources that can help them build a sense of self-worth and develop the skills to embark on productive and constructive lives.

Reaching Out to Youth Out of the Education Mainstream outlines the Youth Out of the Education Mainstream (YOEM) initiative. With a grant from OJJDP and the U.S. Department of Education's Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program, Pepperdine University's National School Safety Center (NSSC) is helping schools, law enforcement and social service agencies, and juvenile justice systems across the Nation pool their resources and create partnerships to help young people avoid the school-related risks that can lead to delinquent behavior.

YOEM programs include prevention activities (mentoring, conflict resolution, peer tutoring, job training, and afterschool programs) and intervention strategies (school peace officers, alternative schools, teen courts, inschool suspensions, and school-based probation officers). Under the YOEM umbrella, NSSC provides training and technical assistance to school districts, juvenile and family courts, social service agencies, community organizations, and other service providers in 10 YOEM demonstration sites.

Reaching Out to Youth Out of the Education Mainstream outlines innovative YOEM programs and strategies. The Bulletin also examines the many factors that can remove youth from the education mainstream and describes promising approaches designed to address each.

IN BRIEF

Youth Development

To share new information about child development and delinquency, OJJDP has launched the Youth Development Series (YDS), new Bulletins that will present notable findings from the Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency. The Causes and Correlates program—three coordinated, longitudinal research projects supported by OJJDP since 1986—is the largest shared-measurement approach ever achieved in delinquency research. The research teams in the three study sites—Rochester, New York; Denver, Colorado; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania—have interviewed 4,000 participants in detail at regular intervals for nearly a decade. The research findings to date indicate that preventing the onset of delinquency requires accurate identification of the risk factors that increase the likelihood of delinquent behavior and the protective factors that enhance positive adolescent development.

The first YDS Bulletin, *Epidemiology of Serious Violence*, considers four key questions relating to juvenile violence:

- At what ages are children and adolescents most likely to engage in serious violent behavior?
- How does the prevalence of violent juvenile offending vary by gender and ethnicity?
- How frequently do violent youth commit offenses?
- What portion of youth successfully avoid involvement in violence throughout the course of adolescent development?

Although findings from the study mirror those of prior research in many ways, three research points were raised that merit further discussion in terms of their implications for violence prevention. First, involvement in serious violent behavior began at a very young age for some of the children in the study sites. Second, serious youth violence is no longer committed only by boys. Third, at the time of the data analysis, boys in the three study sites did not exhibit a decrease in serious violence during their late teenage years.

Another YDS Bulletin, *Gang Members and Delinquent Behavior*, presents the findings from the Rochester Youth Development Study (RYDS) and discusses the portion of delinquency in American society that can be attributed to gang members. The RYDS found that gang members account for a disproportionate share of delinquent acts, particularly more serious offenses. These results clearly demonstrate the importance not only of preventing youth from becoming involved in gangs, but of intervening with youth who are already gang involved and who are committing delinquent and criminal acts.

This Bulletin also describes OJJDP's balanced approach to the problem of gangs, which includes prevention, intervention, and suppression. The Rochester study's findings reinforce the need for such a comprehensive, coordinated response to reduce delinquency and crimes perpetrated by juvenile gang members.

Future topics in this series will include the short- and long-term effects of childhood maltreatment; a closer look at chronic, violent juvenile offenders; an examination of developmental pathways to serious delinquency; and adolescent firearms ownership, acquisition, and use.

For More Information

To find out more about the YOEM initiative and the Youth Development Series, contact OJJDP's Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20849–6000. The toll-free number is 800–638–8736. The Bulletins highlight resources for more information and assistance. Copies of the Bulletins cited and other Bulletins in the series can be obtained from the Clearinghouse. Copies are also available through fax-on-demand; call the toll-free number, and select option 1 for instructions. All OJJDP Bulletins are available online from OJJDP's World Wide Web site (*http://www.ncjrs.org/ojjhome.htm*).

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Teleconferences Spotlight a Variety of Youth Issues

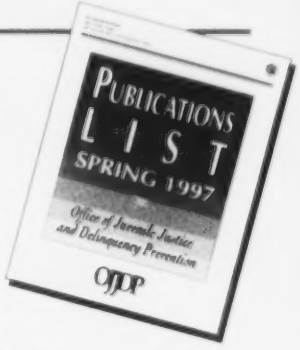
Through its Juvenile Justice Telecommunications Assistance Project (JJTAP), OJJDP works with Eastern Kentucky University to broadcast a series of teleconferences on a variety of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention issues. Broadcasts in 1997 have included:

- *Youth Gangs in America: An Overview of Suppression, Intervention, and Prevention Programs* (March 1997), which features national experts and local program directors of promising gang-reduction initiatives.
- *Preventing Drug Abuse Among Youth* (June 1997), which highlights three proven community-based, family strengthening, and school-based initiatives that are being implemented to empower young people to avoid drug use.
- *Mentoring for Youth in Schools and Communities* (September 1997), which builds on the momentum of the April 1997 President's Summit for America's Future by providing information and resources to develop successful mentoring programs.

For those who missed the live presentation or want a copy for reference, videotapes of these broadcasts can be purchased from the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse. See the order form on page 27 to order copies of the latest broadcasts, and contact the Clearinghouse at 800–638–8736 for information on previous broadcasts. More information about the teleconference initiative is also available online at OJJDP's World Wide Web site (*http://www.ncjrs.org/ojjhome.htm*). This information includes an article from a previous issue of *Juvenile Justice*, Volume III, Number 1, "Using Satellite Teleconferencing," by Michael A. Jones, Bruce I. Wolford, and F.M. Porpotage II.

If you would like to participate in future teleconferences or have questions regarding the project, contact JJTAP by phone at: 606–622–6671; e-mail at: *njdadeh@aol.com*; or fax at: 606–622–2333.

OJJDP Online Publications List



OJJDP's *Publications List* for spring 1997 is now available online from the publications section of OJJDP's World Wide Web site (*http://www.ncjrs.org/ojjhome.htm*). The list can easily be searched to identify and order publications on juvenile justice and delinquency prevention issues. Now you can order print publications online through your Web browser or download the full-text electronic versions directly. You can access the publications in a variety of electronic formats (ASCII text, PDF, and/or HTML) or add items to a virtual shopping cart for convenient and efficient ordering of printed materials.

The list will be updated as new publications are released, and enhancements for ordering, including the use of CyberCash for orders requiring payment, will continue to be incorporated. Use the online list and let us know what you think. Direct your comments and ideas for enhancements to the e-mail address below.

In addition to the online version, printed copies of the *Publications List* for spring 1997 are available from the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse. Write to JJC at P.O. Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20849–6000; call 800–638–8736; send a fax to 301–519–5212; or e-mail *askncjrs@ncjrs.org*. Ask for BC 115.

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JUVENILE JUSTICE

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Volume III • Number 2 September 1997

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FREE.

- ❑ **NEW** *Allegheny County, PA: Mobilizing To Reduce Juvenile Crime* (Bulletin). NCJ 164834.
- ❑ *Combating Violence and Delinquency: The National Juvenile Justice Action Plan* (Summary). NCJ 157105.
- ❑ **NEW** *A Comprehensive Response to America's Youth Gang Problem* (Fact Sheet). FS 009640.
- ❑ **NEW** *Epidemiology of Serious Violence* (Bulletin). NCJ 165152.
- ❑ **NEW** *Gang Members and Delinquent Behavior* (Bulletin). NCJ 165154.
- ❑ *Guide for Implementing the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders*. NCJ 153681.
- ❑ **NEW** *In the Wake of Childhood Maltreatment* (Bulletin). NCJ 165257.
- ❑ **NEW** *Juvenile Arrests 1995* (Bulletin). NCJ 163813.
- ❑ **NEW** *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence*. (Statistics Summary). NCJ 165703.
- ❑ **NEW** *Mentoring—A Proven Delinquency Prevention Strategy* (Bulletin). NCJ 164834.
- ❑ **NEW** *Reaching Out to Youth Out of the Education Mainstream* (Bulletin). NCJ 163920.
- ❑ *Reducing Youth Gun Violence: An Overview of Programs and Initiatives* (Program Report). NCJ 154303.
- ❑ *State Responses to Serious and Violent Juvenile Crime* (Research Report). NCJ 162783.
- ❑ **NEW** *Treating Serious Anti-Social Behavior in Youth: The MST Approach* (Bulletin). NCJ 165151.
- ❑ **NEW** *Truancy: First Step to a Lifetime of Problems* (Bulletin). NCJ 161958.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR A FEE.

OJJDP Satellite Teleconference Videotapes (videotapes of broadcasts from OJJDP's Juvenile Justice Telecommunications Assistance Project). VHS. Each tape is $17 (U.S.; $21 Canada and other countries) unless otherwise noted. Running time is approximately 2 hours each.

- ❑ **NEW** *Youth Gangs in America*. NCJ 164937. March 1997.
- ❑ **NEW** *Preventing Drug Abuse Among Youth*. NCJ 165583. June 1997.
- ❑ **NEW** *Mentoring for Youth in Schools and Communities*. NCJ 166376. September 1997.

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Conditions of Confinement Teleconference (Video). 1993. NCJ 147531 (90 min.), $14.00.

Desktop Guide to Good Juvenile Detention Practice. 1996. NCJ 161408 (218 pp.).

Effective Programs for Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Offenders Teleconference (Video). 1996. NCJ 160947 (120 min.), $17.00.

Evaluation of the Disproportionate Minority Confinement (DMC) Initiative. $15.00 each, $39.00 for set of five.

Arizona Final Report. 1996. NCJ 161564 (111 pp.).

Florida Final Report. 1996. NCJ 161563 (84 pp.).

Iowa Final Report. 1996. NCJ 161562 (115 pp.).

North Carolina Final Report. 1996. NCJ 161561 (97 pp.).

Oregon Final Report. 1996. NCJ 161560 (71 pp.).

Evaluation of the Impact of Boot Camps for Juvenile Offenders. $19.00 each.

Cleveland Interim Report. 1996. NCJ 160928 (160 pp.).

Denver Interim Report. 1996. NCJ 160927 (108 pp.).

Mobile Interim Report. 1996. NCJ 160926 (119 pp.).

Juvenile Arrests 1995. 1997. NCJ 163813 (12 pp.).

Juvenile Boot Camps Teleconference (Video). 1996. NCJ 160949 (120 min.). $17.00.

Juvenile Detention Training Needs Assessment. 1996. NCJ 156833 (60 pp.).

Juvenile Probation: The Workhorse of the Juvenile Justice System. 1996. NCJ 158534 (6 pp.).

Juveniles Taken Into Custody: Fiscal Year 1993 Report. 1995. NCJ 154022 (195 pp.).

A Resource Manual for Juvenile Detention and Corrections: Effective and Innovative Programs. 1995. NCJ 155285 (164 pp.), $15.00.

Beyond the Bench: How Judges Can Help Reduce Juvenile DUI and Alcohol and Other Drug Violations (Video and discussion guide). 1996. NCJ 162357 (16 min.), $17.00.

Juvenile Court Statistics 1994. 1996. NCJ 163709 (95 pp.).

Offenders in Juvenile Court, 1994. 1996. NCJ 162423 (12 pp.).

1996 Report to Congress: Title V Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs. 1997. NCJ 165694 (100 pp.).

Allegheny County, PA: Mobilizing To Reduce Juvenile Crime. 1997. NCJ 165693 (12 pp.).

Combating Violence and Delinquency: The National Juvenile Justice Action Plan (Report). 1996. NCJ 157106 (200 pp.).

Combating Violence and Delinquency: The National Juvenile Justice Action Plan (Summary). 1996. NCJ 157105 (36 pp.).

Communities Working Together Teleconference (Video). 1996. NCJ 160946 (120 min.), $17.00.

Creating Safe and Drug-Free Schools: An Action Guide. 1996 (134 pp.). Available from the U.S. Department of Education (800–624–0100).

Keeping Young People in School: Community Programs That Work. 1997. NCJ 162783 (12 pp.).

Matrix of Community-Based Initiatives. 1995. NCJ 154816 (51 pp.).

Mentoring—A Proven Delinquency Prevention Strategy. 1997. NCJ 164386 (8 pp.).

Mobilizing Communities To Prevent Juvenile Crime. 1997. NCJ 165928 (8 pp.).

Reaching Out to Youth Out of the Education Mainstream. 1997. NCJ 163920 (12 pp.).

Title V Delinquency Prevention Program Community Self-Evaluation Workbook. 1996. NCJ 160125 (162 pp.).

Treating Serious Anti-Social Behavior in Youth: The MST Approach. 1997. NCJ 165151 (8 pp.).

Youth Environmental Service in Action. 1996. NCJ 159762 (38 pp.).

Youth Environmental Service Technical Assistance Package. 1996. NCJ 159763 (72 pp.).

Youth-Oriented Community Policing Teleconference (Video). 1996. NCJ 160947 (120 min.), $17.00.

1995 National Youth Gang Survey. 1997. NCJ 164728 (41 pp.).

Gang Members and Delinquent Behavior. 1997. NCJ 165154 (6 pp.).

Female Offenders in the Juvenile Justice System. 1996. NCJ 160941 (28 pp.).

Juvenile Justice, Volume III, Number 2. 1997. NCJ 165925 (32 pp.).

Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence. 1997. NCJ 165703 (32 pp.).

Juvenile Offenders and Victims: A National Report. 1995. NCJ 153569 (188 pp.).

State Challenge Activities. 1996. NCJ 163055 (8 pp.).

Addressing Confidentiality of Records in Searches for Missing Children. 1995. NCJ 155183 (284 pp.), $15.00.

The Compendium of the North American Symposium on International Child Abduction: How To Handle International Child Abduction Cases. 1993. NCJ 148137 (928 pp.), $17.50.

Court Appointed Special Advocates: A Voice for Abused and Neglected Children in Court. 1997. NCJ 164512 (4 pp.).

Federal Resources on Missing and Exploited Children: A Directory for Law Enforcement and Other Public and Private Agencies. 1996. NCJ 161475 (126 pp.).

In the Wake of Childhood Maltreatment. 1997. NCJ 165257 (16 pp.).

Obstacles to the Recovery and Return of Parentally Abducted Children. 1994. NCJ 143458 (21 pp.).

Portable Guides to Investigating Child Abuse: An Overview. 1997. NCJ 165153 (8 pp.).

Using Agency Records To Find Missing Children: A Guide for Law Enforcement. 1995. NCJ 154633 (20 pp.).

Curfew: An Answer to Juvenile Delinquency and Victimization? 1996. NCJ 159533 (12 pp.).

Truancy: First Step to a Lifetime of Problems. 1996. NCJ 161958 (8 pp.).

Unlocking the Doors for Status Offenders: The State of the States. 1995. NCJ 160803 (85 pp.), $16.50.

Child Development–Community Policing: Partnership in a Climate of Violence. 1997. NCJ 164380 (8 pp.).

Conflict Resolution Education: A Guide to Implementing Programs in Schools, Youth-Serving Organizations, and Community and Juvenile Justice Settings. 1996. NCJ 160935 (134 pp.).

Conflict Resolution for Youth Teleconference (Video). 1996. NCJ 161416 (150 min.), $17.00.

Epidemiology of Serious Violence. 1997. NCJ 165152 (12 pp.).

Guide for Implementing the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders. 1995. NCJ 153571 (6 pp.).

Reducing Youth Gun Violence: An Overview of Programs and Initiatives. 1996. NCJ 154303 (74 pp.).

State Responses to Serious and Violent Juvenile Crime. 1996. NCJ 161565 (61 pp.).

OJJDP also publishes Fact Sheets, two-page summaries on agency programs and initiatives. Contact JJC for titles and further information.

The *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Brochure* (1996, NCJ 144527 (23 pp.)) offers more information about the agency.

The *OJJDP Publications List* (BC000115) offers a complete list of OJJDP publications and is also available online.

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